Happy Spirit
brought to you by
Shoujo Sense
Translator: hemmy
Proofreader: bealovelylady
Cleaner: hemmy
Typesetter: bealovelylady
QCer: hemmy
PLEASE SUPPORT THE AUTHOR BY BUYING THE MANGA WHEN/IF IT'S AVAILABLE IN YOUR REGION
HTTP://SHOUJOSENSE.COM
HTTP://READER.SHOUJOSENSE.COM

*T/N A GHOST SEE LAST PAGE FOR FURTHER NOTES

...No,
that's impossible.
HURRY AND PASS ME BY

*NOTE SOME BELIEVE THAT A GHOST CAN POSSESS YOU IF YOU LOOK INTO IT'S EYES

Carefully, without our eyes meeting*
I'll be late for my lesson.
はっ
SFX REALIZE
SFX NIMBLY
The summer break during 5th grade*
was all about cram school* and home tutoring every day
Huh?
YUUKA, AREN'T YOU ACTING STRANGE TODAY?
LIKE YOU CAN'T CALM DOWN AT ALL
SFX MIN_SX

*NOTES SEE LAST PAGE

WELL TO BE HONEST,
EARLIER I SAW A GH-
...NEVER MIND, IT'S NOTHING...
EH? WHAT?
They would think that I've got heatstroke or something ...
Okay
BE QUIET!
THE LESSON IS STARTING.
Oops
LISTEN! THERE'S NO MORE TIME TO SLACK OFF!
ONLY THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUS WILL PASS*!
THINK OF ALL THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU AS YOUR RIVALS!
An "obake"..
はいっ
TEXT YES!
*NOTE: SEE LAST PAGE

This might be kind of interesting..
Oh.
He's still here...
Don't make eye contact don't make eye contact...
YOU DROPPED THIS EARLIER.
smile
ERM.
HIEEE?!
HERE.
AH, my printout

*NOTE SEE LAST PAGE

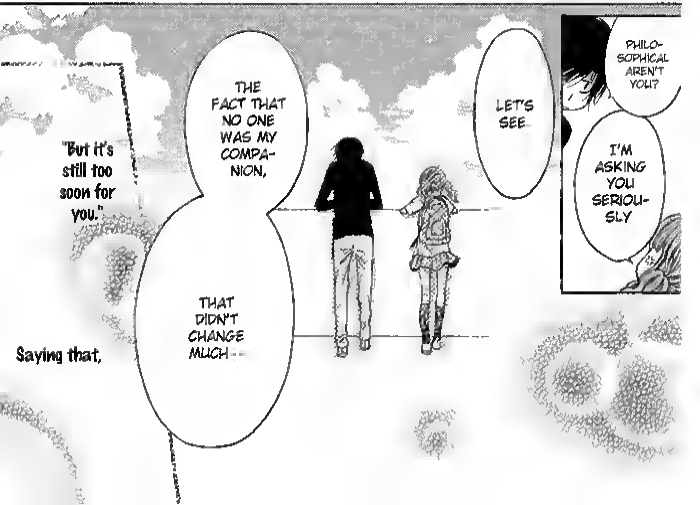
*T/K NOTE SHE'S THINKING THAT HE COMMITED SUICIDE
NEGATIVE THOUGHTS AND EXPE-RIENCES PILE UP AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME
A BIT
...
EH...
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THESE THINGS ?
Eh?
SO YOU WANTED TO FALL DOWN THE STAIRS*?!
NO. MY DOWNFALL WAS MAINLY WITH HUMAN RELATION-SHIPS
Ah, that ?
WELL, AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLER MIGHT NOT UNDERSTAND IT
P..
mad..
PLEASE DON'T TREAT ME LIKE AN IDIOT!

I HAVE A LOT OF
DIFFERENT PROBLEMS, TOO!
I'M SORRY...
はっ
SFX "GASP"
たっ
I acted like that towards someone older...
I'M BACK
But
SO-SO
YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE IT SERIOUSLY, CRAM SCHOOL COSTS A LOT OF MONEY
HURRY UP AND EAT so that I can clean up!
AREN'T YOU LATE?
HOW WERE YOUR RESULTS ON THE MOCK EXAM?
SFX: RUN

I left him feeling a little bit refreshed...
OBAKE-SAN,
CAN YOU EAT ICE-CREAM?
AS AN APOL-OGY
BH?
Your notes on yesterdays print-out were super easy to understand
WHILE WE'RE AT IT CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM?
YOU REALLY HAVE CRAM SCHOOL LESSONS EVERY DAY?
and 10 minutes before going home, while we eat ice-cream.
before my lessons
I'd take the stairs and spend 10 minutes with Obake-san
Even after the elevator was fixed,

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO THE POOL WITH YOUR FRIENDS,
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SUMMER BREAK?
I DON'T HAVE FRIENDS ...
I HAVE KIDS THAT TALK TO ME AT CRAM SCHOOL, BUT
EVERYONE SEES THE OTHERS AS RIVALS
BUT YOU LOOK LIKE FRIENDS
You talk to each other a lot.
Hee.
WHEN I WAS IN 3RD GRADE, I TRANSFERRED HERE
"There's a woman over there."
"Eeh? There's no one there!"
"Ghosts don't exist"
"Liar!"
I WAS CALLED A LIAR
AND WAS OSTRACIZED

SAY,
WHEN YOU BECAME AN OBAKE,
DID YOU FIND HAPPINESS?
...I SEE
THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE ABLE TO SEE ME


PHILO-SOPHICAL AREN'T YOU?
I'M ASKING YOU SERIOU-SLY
LET'S SEE
THE FACT THAT NO ONE WAS MY COMPA-NION,
THAT DIDN'T CHANGE MUCH--
"But it's still too soon for you."
Saying that,

SFX NOTICE
はっ
Huh?
He's not here...
SFX PEEK
ひょこ
the ghost laughed shortly.
OBAKE-SAN!

IT'S A LIE
THAT I CAN SEE GHOSTS.
I CAN ONLY SEE LIVING HUMANS!
Because the elevator was fixed
no one passes by here anymore.
Is he someone who can't stop from the heart?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
I'M SORRY.
I FEEL SO HOT
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
ICE-CREAM. HOLD THIS ON YOUR FORE-HEAD.
WAIT, I'LL CALL AN AMBU-LANCE ...
NO, I'M FINE ...
I'M AN OBAKE;
OTHER PEOPLE CAN'T SEE ME
MORON!
THEN YOU'LL REALLY DIE!!

I WANTED THEM TO LOOK AT ME
YOU'RE LIKE ME... I THOUGHT ABOUT GETTING CLOSER TO MY MOM AND FRIENDS.
...I
OBAKE-SAN, YOU SHOULD BE TOGETHER WITH OTHER GHOSTS
ALWAYS

THOUGHT THAT NO ONE COULD SEE ME...
HEY, FOR NOW, TELL ME YOUR NAME.
YOUR REAL ONE
NAME...
sniff

I SEE.
TO BECOME FRIENDS WE NEED TO KNOW EACH OTHER'S NAMES FIRST...
IDIOT!
I NEED TO TELL THE EMT'S IN THE AMBULANCE WHAT IT IS!
...OBAKE KEISUKE
OBA-
SO IT IS ACTUALLY OBAKE.

Happy★Spirit / END

EXTRA NOTES FOR HAPPY SPIRIT

PAGE 157 // OBAKE - A CLASS OF YOKAI, PRETERNATURAL CREATURES IN JAPANESE FOLKLORE. LITERALLY, THE TERMS MEAN A THING THAT CHANGES, REFERRING TO A STATE OF TRANSFORMATION OR SHAPESHIFTING. THEY ARE BEINGS WHO HAVE UNDERGONE SOME SORT OF CHANGE, FROM THE NATURAL REALM TO THE SUPERNATURAL. 'OBAKE' IS OFTEN TRANSLATED AS 'GHOST' AND CAN BE A SYNONYM FOR 'YUREI', THE GHOST OF A DECEASED HUMAN BEING.

PAGE 159 // "THE SUMMER BREAK DURING 5TH GRADE... " - THE JAPANESE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS IN APRIL, NOT IN SEPTEMBER LIKE IN OTHER COUNTRIES, AND ENDS IN MARCH, WITH A SUMMER BREAK FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER AND WINTER BREAK FROM DECEMBER TO JANUARY.

PAGE 159 // CRAM SCHOOL - GAKUSHU JUKU, OR CRAM SCHOOLS, ARE SPECIAL PRIVATE SCHOOLS THAT OFFER LESSONS CONDUCTED AFTER REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS, ON WEEKENDS, AND DURING SCHOOL VACATIONS. ACADEMIC JUKU ARE BEST KNOWN AS "CRAM SCHOOLS", WHERE CHILDREN CAN STUDY TO IMPROVE THE SCORES OF LOWER-SECONDARY (ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL) STUDENTS ON UPPER-SECONDARY SCHOOL (HIGH SCHOOL) ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS.

PAGE 160 // "ONLY THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUS WILL PASS!" - THE TEACHER IS TALKING ABOUT PASSING THE ENTRANCE EXAMS FOR THEIR UPPER-SECONDARY SCHOOL, OR HIGH SCHOOL. TO ENTER HIGH SCHOOL, STUDENTS MUST TAKE AN ENTRANCE EXAM IN JAPANESE, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, AND ENGLISH.
THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF EXAMS: A STANDARDIZED EXAM FOR ALL PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE PREFECTURE OR AN EXAM CREATED BY A PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL FOR THAT SCHOOL ALONE. ALL UPPER-SECONDARY SCHOOLS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, ARE INFORMALLY RANKED BASED ON THEIR SUCCESS IN PLACING GRADUATES IN FRESHMAN CLASSES OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS UNIVERSITIES (WHICH MEANS THERE ARE SCHOOLS THAT TAKE ONLY SMART CHILDREN, AND SCHOOLS FOR LOWER-SCORING STUDENTS AND DELINQUENTS).
SUCCESS OR FAILURE ON AN ENTRANCE EXAMINATION CAN INFLUENCE A STUDENT'S ENTIRE FUTURE, SINCE THE PROSPECT OF FINDING A GOOD JOB DEPENDS ON THE SCHOOL ATTENDED. BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS - EVEN MORE THAN THE SCHOLASTIC RECORD AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS FROM LOWER-SECONDARY SCHOOL - STUDENTS ARE CLOSELY COUNSELED IN LOWER-SECONDARY SCHOOL SO THAT THEY WILL BE RELATIVELY ASSURED OF A PLACE IN THE SCHOOLS TO WHICH THEY APPLY.

PAGE 162 // "WHY DID YOU BECOME A GHOST...?" - ACCORDING TO TRADITIONAL JAPANESE BELIEFS, ALL HUMANS HAVE A SPIRIT OR SOUL CALLED A 'REIKON'. WHEN A PERSON DIES, THE REIKON LEAVES THE BODY AND ENTERS A FORM OF PURGATORY, WHERE IT WAITS FOR THE PROPER FUNERAL AND POST-FUNERAL RITES TO BE PERFORMED, SO THAT IT MAY JOIN ITS' ANCESTORS. HOWEVER, IF THE PERSON DIES IN A SUDDEN OR VIOLENT MANNER SUCH AS MURDER OR SUICIDE AND THE PROPER RITES HAVE NOT BEEN PERFORMED, OR IF THEY ARE INFLUENCED BY POWERFUL EMOTIONS SUCH AS A DESIRE FOR REVENGE, LOVE, JEALOUSY, HATRED OR SORROW, THE REIKON IS THOUGHT TO TRANSFORM INTO A YUREI. THE YUREI THEN EXISTS ON EARTH UNTIL IT CAN BE LAID TO REST, EITHER BY PERFORMING THE MISSING RITUALS, OR RESOLVING THE EMOTIONAL CONFLICT THAT STILL TIES IT TO THE PHYSICAL PLANE. IF THE RITUALS ARE NOT COMPLETED OR THE CONFLICT LEFT UNRESOLVED, THE YUREI WILL PERSIST IN ITS HAUNTING.